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BARNARD CASTLE URBAN DISTRICT  
COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year

1962



A. S. M. WILSON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H.

BARNARD CASTLE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,  
Woodleigh,  
Barnard Castle.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I respectfully submit to you my Annual Report for 1962.

The Vital Statistics of the district are generally satisfactory, and there were 105 births in 1962 compared with 85 in 1961. During 1962 progress continued in giving protection against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus, and inroads were made regarding poliomyelitis and tuberculosis in children of school age particularly. The provision of Health Services in the district continues as in recent years.

Throughout the year I have enjoyed the advice and co-operation of the family doctors in the district. I would also thank the Members of this Council for their continued support. Mr. Dixon and Mr. White have kindly helped in the preparation of this Report and I am obliged to them.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. S. M. WILSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Officers

Medical Officer of Health:

A. S. M. WILSON, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H. (part-time)

Public Health Inspector:

EDGAR DIXON, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H. (full-time).

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GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area (Acreage)	559
Population (Registrar General's Estimated Figure mid-year 1962)	5,280
Sum represented by a penny rate	<del>£490.4.8.</del> <sup>£112-9-2.</sup>
Rateable Value as at 1.4.62	<del>£134,864.</del> <sup>£56,764.</sup>

Main Local Industries.

Glaxo Laboratories Limited employed 662 people during 1962, and are concerned with the manufacture of antibiotics and vitamins by fermentation processes, together with the handling of antibiotics in bulk filling, packing and despatch thereof. This is the main industry and employment in the district.

Other industrial establishments in the district are concerned with engineering and ironfounding, the manufacture of gloves, and the manufacture of concrete and artificial stone products, and egg and poultry packing.

Climatic Conditions.

Table showing RAINFALL in inches in 1962  
Compiled from figures received from the Bowes Museum.

<u>1962</u>	<u>Inches</u>
January	3.84
February	1.96
March	.79
April	2.27
May	2.39
June	.62
July	2.12
August	3.23
September	3.13
October	.76
November	2.27
December	2.05
	<u>25.43</u>
Average Rainfall 5 years 1958 - 1962	31.16 inches
	25.43 1962
	29.77 1961
	39.63 1960
	24.89 1959
	36.06 1958

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Live-Births	Legitimate } Illegitimate }	105	46 5	51 3

Live-birth Rate - 19.9 per 1,000 home population.

Adjusted Rate - 18.9 per 1,000 home population.

Corresponding Rate for England and Wales - 18.0 per 1,000 home population.

		<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Still-Births	Legitimate } Illegitimate }	3	1 -	2 -

Still-birth Rate per 1,000 home population - 0.57.

Still-birth Rate per 1,000 home population (England and Wales) - 0.33.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Deaths	94	54	40

Death-rate per 1,000 home population - 17.4.

Adjusted Rate - 12.7.

For England and Wales - 11.9 per 1,000 home population.

<u>Deaths of Infants Under 1 year.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	3	-
Legitimate	3	-
Illegitimate	-	-

<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	2	-
Legitimate	2	-
Illegitimate	-	-

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Total	2	-
Legitimate	2	-
Illegitimate	-	-

Death-rate of Infants under 1 year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births	19
England and Wales	21

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
All Causes	54	40	94
1. Cardio vascular:-			
(a) Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	9	15
(b) Coronary disease	9	9	18
(c) Hypertension with heart disease	-	-	-
(d) Other heart diseases	12	8	20
(e) Other circulatory diseases	<u>6</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>10</u>
Totals	<u>33</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>63</u>
2. Cancer:-			
(a) Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	-	1	1
(b) Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	1	2
(c) Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	-	-
(d) Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
(e) Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>
Totals	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>
3. Chest Diseases:-			
(a) Pneumonia	4	1	5
(b) Bronchitis	1	-	1
(c) Other diseases of respiratory system	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Totals	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>
4. Tuberculosis - Respiratory	-	-	-
5. Influenza	-	-	-
6. Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-
7. Leukaemia	-	-	-
8. Diabetes	-	2	2
9. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	-	1
10. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	-	-	-
11. Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	1
12. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-
13. Congenital Malformations	2	-	2
14. Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	-	-	-
15. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	3	6
16. Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	-	2
17. All other Accidents	-	-	-
18. Suicide	-	-	-
19. Homicide	-	-	-

The main causes of death in the district during the year were diseases of the heart and circulatory system (67%), cancer (10.6%) and diseases of the respiratory system (7.5%) in that order.

The number of deaths from coronary disease was 18, and 9 of these deaths were in males. Recent research indicates that lack of adequate physical exercise and excess weight are contributory factors. It is also suggested that cigarette smoking plays a part.



GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratories.

Public Health Laboratories are available at Northallerton and Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The Laboratory is situated in the General Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Facilities are also provided at Bishop Auckland General Hospital, Pathological Department, for urgent bacteriological examinations.

Ambulance Facilities.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer's Ambulance Department, Durham, for the following summary of work done by vehicles stationed in the urban and rural districts.

Barnard Castle urban and rural districts are served by two ambulance depots, two ambulances and four driver-attendants.

	<u>Journeys</u>	<u>Stretcher</u> <u>cases</u>	<u>Sitting</u> <u>cases</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>cases</u>	<u>Mileage</u>
1960	1,185	609	4,741	5,350	67,706
1961	1,055	506	4,511	5,017	62,835
1962	1,081	519	4,724	5,243	61,010

In addition to the above, patients residing in the urban and rural districts are also conveyed by vehicles from neighbouring depots and by the Darlington Ambulance Service, as occasion demands. Records are not maintained in sanitary district order and information regarding these cases cannot be conveniently supplied.

Home Nursing and Midwifery Service.

The Durham County Council is responsible for the Home Nursing and Midwifery Service and the following is a summary of the work carried out:

Midwifery Service.

No. of Midwifery and Maternity Cases	60
No. of Hospital patients discharged before the tenth day	11

Home Nursing Service

<u>Cases</u>	<u>Patients</u>	<u>Visits</u>
Medical	64	1,364
Surgical	16	319
Tuberculosis	3	328
Grand Total	<u>83</u>	<u>2,011</u>

Cases included in the above  
total who were 65 years of  
age or over

93.4%

80%

Midwives Names and Addresses and Telephonic Numbers.

Mrs. M. L. Morton, 3, Harmire Road, Barnard Castle.  
Telephone Number - Barnard Castle 3156.

Miss L. H. Dodd, 4, Montgomery Road, Barnard Castle.  
Telephone Number - Barnard Castle 2149.

There is a small Nursing Home at 32, Bede Road (Proprietress - Hilda Smurthwaite, S.R.N., S.C.M.,) chiefly for maternity cases.

Health Visiting

There are two County Health Visitors who work in this district:

Miss J. Gargett, Moor View, Bowes.  
Mrs. J. Aiston, Hill Crest, Stobb Hill, Gainford.

### Treatment Centres and Clinics.

An Infant Welfare Clinic and a School Clinic are held on alternate weeks at the Trinity Methodist Schoolroom, Barnard Castle, under the administration of the County Council.

### Hospitals.

There are no special hospitals for Tuberculosis, Midwifery, Paediatrics, or Infective Diseases in the area.

The Richardson Memorial Convalescent Home, which was taken over during the war under the Emergency Medical Services Hospitals Scheme, is now used as a Convalescent Holiday Home for patients from hospitals in the County of Durham, North Riding of Yorkshire and the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Negotiations are in progress between the Trustees of the Home and the Regional Hospital Board with a view to the Home being taken over by the Hospital Board for use under the National Health Service.

### PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Protection against poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus is available from family doctors and at child welfare centres.

#### Diphtheria Immunisation.

The total number of children who received a primary course of protection against diphtheria either singly or in combination during the year was 46, as follows:

<u>Under 4 years on 31.12.62.</u>	<u>5-14 yrs. on 31.12.62.</u>	<u>Total under 15 yrs.</u>
42	4	46

Boosters given under the same age groups were:

2	18	20
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#### Poliomyelitis.

It is satisfactory to note that no cases occurred during the year.

#### Poliomyelitis Vaccination Scheme.

During the year vaccination continued to be available to all persons up to the age of 40 years, and to certain priority groups over that age. Most children are now vaccinated by their family doctors, but facilities are available at child welfare centres and school clinics, should the parents so desire. During the year the County Council initiated the use of oral vaccine. This work was carried out within school premises, at the outset those under and over school leaving age attending evening sessions. The oral vaccine was later released to family doctors and child welfare centres, and is now generally used.

The following figures indicate the different age groups vaccinated in the combined urban/rural district scheme during the year.

<u>Primary Immunisation.</u>	<u>No. of persons who have received</u>	
	<u>Salk Vaccine</u>	<u>Oral Vaccine</u>
a. Children born in 1962	10	19
b. Children born in 1961	70	87
c. Children and young persons born in 1943 - 1960	154	626
d. Children and young persons born 1933 - 1942	61	48
e. Others	131	95
Total	<u>426</u>	<u>875</u>

### Reinforcing Doses.

Number of persons given third injections of Salk vaccine	598
Number of persons given fourth injections of Salk vaccine	213
Number of persons given a reinforcing dose of oral vaccine after:	
(1) 2 Salk doses	228
(2) 3 Salk doses	473

By 31.12.62 a total of 6,119 persons had received a third injection since the inception of the scheme, and four injections had been received by 1,215 persons.

### B.C.G. Vaccination

During 1962 the County Council continued to offer protection against tuberculosis to all school children aged 12 years and over.

A skin test is carried out first to see whether or not a child has developed a degree of natural immunity. A negative reaction indicates the need for protection, and vaccination is then carried out.

The following figures show the work carried out during 1962.

	Parental Consents	At skin testing		At reading		At vaccination		
		Tested	Absent	Positive Reactors	Negative Reactors	Absent	Vac-cinated	Not vac-cinated
Grammar	162	154	8	66	83	5	68	15
Modern	168	138	30	49	89	-	78	11
County	121	121	-	41	80	-	70	10

Children who are absent or unable to receive vaccination for medical reasons such as eczema, intercurrent infection, etc. are dealt with at the next session.

### Infectious Diseases.

#### Notifications during 1954/62.

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Scarlet Fever	2	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	4	37	105	122	-	6	3	215	81
Whooping Cough	-	3	44	19	2	14	2	4	2
Polio myelitis	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Primary Pneumonia	1	2	2	6	4	7	-	-	-
Erysipelas	1	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	17	-	1	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-

The incidence of infectious disease notifiable to this office is shown in the above comparative table.

### Tuberculosis.

During 1962 two new cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified. One a female aged 15 years, and the other a male aged 56 years. No deaths occurred due to tuberculosis.



## GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH CIRCUMSTANCES.

### Water Supply.

The water supply for domestic and other purposes was supplied by the Council until 31st March, 1962, with water from springs augmented by water purchased from The Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board. 4 samples of the water from the Council's springs taken in January 1962 were in Class 4.

The whole of the water undertaking was taken over by The Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board on 1st April, 1962. A constant water supply at adequate pressure has been maintained by the Board during the remainder of the year. All houses are supplied direct from the main.

### Closet Accommodation.

All properties are served with water closets with the exception of 4 premises which are situated at some distance from the Council's sewers. These 4 premises have pail closets which are emptied regularly.

### Housing.

#### Slum Clearance.

The statutory return of unfit houses which the Council submitted to the Minister under the Housing Repairs and Rent Act, 1954, covering the Council's programme for five years from 1st August, 1955, covered 84 dwellings.

Progress made in this Slum Clearance programme at 31st December, 1962, is as follows:-

No. of houses in Confirmed Clearance Areas	60
No. of houses subject to Demolition Orders	9
Closing Orders made since the report	13
Houses demolished during the year as a result of Slum Clearance scheme or other formal action	5
Houses closed but not demolished	13
Houses in Clearance Areas and Individual Unfit Houses, demolition of which temporarily postponed	6

#### Improvement Grants. Housing Acts 1949-1959.

Applications submitted during 1962 to Local Authority	8
Applications refused during 1962 by Local Authority	Nil
Total number of applications approved since inception of the scheme	70
Total number of grants paid since inception of the scheme	63

### New Dwellings.

Fourteen houses were completed by the North Eastern Housing Association during the year. 12 of these completed the Bridgegate redevelopment and two were infilling houses 43 & 45, The Bank.

Seven privately built dwellings were occupied for the first time during the year.

### Future Development by the Council.

Plans are formulated to rebuild on the site of 8, Thorngate Wynd, the Bridge Inn site in Thorngate, 39 & 41, The Bank and 78, Galgate.

Various sites in the town are being surveyed and negotiations are in hand to make further sites available for development by the Council.

The number of applicants on the Council's housing list at the end of the year was 163 compared with 141 at the end of 1961.

### Provision of dwellings by the Local Authority.

	Owners	Situation	No. of Bedrooms				
			1	2	3	4	Total
Pre 1939	Barnard Castle U.D.C.	Dunelm Square	4	13	6	2	25
	North Eastern Housing Association Limited	Dunelm Square	10	-	-	-	10
		Dawson Road	-	22	14	8	44
		Total Pre 1939	14	35	20	10	79
Post 1939	Barnard Castle U.D.C.	Victoria Road	-	-	12	-	12
	North Eastern Housing Association Limited	Zetland Road	-	20	28	6	54
		Montalbo Road Estate	8	-	82	12	102
		Zetland Road Extension	6	20	13	-	39
		Green Lane Site	8	76	80	12	176
		The Bank Redevelopment	-	1	3	1	5
		Thorngate Redevelopment	1	-	1	-	2
		Bridgegate Redevelopment	-	22	30	-	52
		Total Post 1939	23	139	249	31	442
		GRAND TOTAL	37	174	269	41	521

### Confirmed Clearance Areas.

Three dwellings in Clearance Areas made before 1939 were standing at the end of the year. Two of these, in Grey Lane, are partly demolished by the Council.

Only three houses in Guys Yard, Market Place, of the 50 houses in post-war Confirmed Clearance Areas are standing, these are empty and awaiting demolition.

### Factories and Workshops.

Sixty-four premises with mechanical power and ten without are on the register. None required written notices during the year.

On building sites and other temporary work sites only one written notice was served.

9 outworkers in the Urban area and 3 outside the Urban area are finishing gloves for a local employer. All the outworkers premises are satisfactory.

## Camping.

### Tents.

A licence to station not more than 20 tents on land at Orchard Brac, Flatts Wood, was granted during the year. The site was kept in order and was well used during the summer months.

### Holiday Caravans - Red Well Inn Camping Site, Field O.S. No. 2.

Efforts were made to bring this site up to the standards required under Section 5 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, before the site became available for use on the 1st April, 1962. Nevertheless, the site was not in a condition to comply with the model conditions until the end of June when it was allowed to be used as a holiday camping site.

### Residential Caravans.

An individual licence to use a caravan as a permanent dwelling on a site at the Red Well Inn, part of Field O.S. No. 2, is in force. Model conditions are attached to this licence.

### Prospect Place Camping Ground - Field O.S. No. 58.

The application to use this site for thirty residential caravans was originally reduced to 20 residential caravans with conditions in accordance with the model standards. The work necessary to be done to meet these conditions to be completed by 1st April, 1962.

The applicant appealed against these conditions, the appeal was heard on the 4th September, 1961, and the magistrates upheld the conditions with the exception of condition No. 15 which was modified to read:-

"it is a condition of the licence that the holder of the licence shall, before the 1st day of April, 1963, carry out and complete all necessary work detailed in these conditions, to the satisfaction of the Council".

Plans were finally agreed for 17 standings for caravans on the site and subsequently an application for the retention of one movable dwelling on the site was considered and granted subject to conditions under the Public Health Act, 1936.

At the end of the year, certain drainage and road work had been started to make the site comply with the conditions which would be applicable on 1st April, 1963.

### Camping site on part of Field O.S. No. 90 at rear of Birch Road.

The owner did not complete the work required to bring this site up to the standard necessary to comply with the conditions and the land has ceased to be used as a site for caravan dwellings.

### Rodent Control.

Again I have to report that due to the part-time operative not being available, the Council's sewers were not treated. Private dwellings and business premises together with the refuse tip and sewage works were treated as soon as it became necessary.

### Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

#### Ice Cream.

Of the thirty-six retailers in the area, thirty-four sell pre-packed ice-cream and during the year the other two started to prepare and sell cold mix soft ice-cream from cabinets fixed in the sales shop.



## Meat.

Immense activity was concentrated in the first three months of the year to bring the four slaughterhouses in the area into conformity with the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958 and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958 before the appointed day for the Urban area, 1st April, 1962.

With a last minute rush with paint brush and trowel, all four slaughterhouses were ready by the appointed day. The alterations and stunning pens have made a considerable improvement in the prevention of cruelty to the animals awaiting slaughter and the finished carcasses ready for the sales shop.

The four slaughterhouses at present licensed are:-

<u>Slaughterhouse</u>	<u>Licence Holder</u>
1. Vere Road, Barnard Castle.	Mr. W. H. Foster
2. Rear of 54, Galgate, Barnard Castle.	Messrs. W. Peat (B.C.) Ltd.
3. Birch Road, Barnard Castle.	Mr. F. A. Youngs
4. Rear of 46, The Bank, Barnard Castle.	Mr. R. C. Jackson.

Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in the year ended 31st December, 1962.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	860	6	76	2747	786
Number inspected	860	6	76	2719	786
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	5	-
Part of carcase or organ condemned	144	3	4	94	248
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	16.74	50.0	5.26	3.27	31.55
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcase condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Part of carcase or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	6
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	0.76
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	-
Submitted for refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalized and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

## Refuse Tip

The tipping surface in the south west corner which was relatively near to the highway covering an area of approximately one acre has been completed during the year covered with earth, reseeded and let for grazing.

The present tipping faces proceeding in a westerly direction are now well removed from the highway and fencing has been erected to prevent as far as possible the escape of paper from the tipping area.

Land reseeded to the east of the tip and land to the west of the tip not yet required for tipping purposes is let annually for grazing.



During the year the Durham County Council Drainage Officer prepared a scheme for the cleaning out, deepening and widening of Black Beck which passes along the northern boundary of the Council land. The Council agreed to pay their proportion of the cost. When completed, this scheme should prevent the waterlogging of the low lying areas of the Council land not yet required for tipping. The land drainage will be improved and result in better grazing.

#### Sewerage & Sewage Disposal.

The new soil and surface water sewers in Bridgegate and Thorngate Wynd were completed during the year. This has made possible the removal of the disused, unsightly, exposed cast iron sewer which was carried on stone piers on the north side of the River Tees.

Information was officially received from Startforth Rural District Council that they did not now wish to discharge the sewage from Startforth Village into the Urban Council sewers as they had received Ministry approval to a scheme of their own.

The Council's Consulting Engineers have been informed of this decision and they have been asked to amend their report accordingly. The report provides for the enlargement of the Sewage Disposal Works in which provision will be made for the town's estimated future requirements and the acceptance of the sewage from Darlington Road area which lies within the district of the Barnard Castle Rural District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1962 FOR THE URBAN  
DISTRICT OF BARNARD CASTLE IN THE COUNTY OF DURHAM.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration  
of the Factories Act, 1961.

PART I OF THE ACT

1. - INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	12	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	64	32	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	7	25	1	-
Total	81	69	1	-

2. - Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Total	1	1	-	-	-

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of work (1)		Section 133			Section 134	
		No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)
Wearing apparel	Making etc.	-	-	-	-	-
	Cleaning and Washing	12	-	-	-	-

